

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing access to a software application comprised of an application core and version-specific functionality, the method comprising:
enabling access to the application core;
5 determining a version of the software application; and
providing a module link that corresponds to the version, the module link for enabling access to the version-specific functionality.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the application core comprises software that is
10 common across multiple versions of the application, and the version-specific functionality comprises functionality that is specific to the version of the software application.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
encrypting the module link before providing the module link.

15 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the module link is encrypted with a public key that corresponds to a user of the software application.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
20 receiving the public key used for encrypting the module link.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the module link enables access to the version-specific functionality by referencing the version specific functionality.

25 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the module link enables access to the version-specific functionality by downloading the version-specific functionality and incorporating the version-specific module into the application core.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the module link comprises configuration settings
30 for the application core.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
receiving identification information that corresponds to a user of the software
application;

5 wherein the version of the software application is determined using the identification
information.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the software application comprises a content
player in an electronic learning system and the version-specific functionality corresponds to
10 at least one of an online content player, an authoring environment content player, and an
offline content player.

11. A computer program product for providing access to a software application
comprised of an application core and version-specific functionality, the computer program
15 product being tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product
being operable to cause a machine to:
enable access to the application core;
determine a version of the software application; and
provide a module link that corresponds to the version, the module link for enabling
20 access to the version-specific functionality.

12. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the application core
comprises software that is common across multiple versions of the application, and the
version-specific functionality comprises functionality that is specific to the version of the
25 software application.

13. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the computer program
product is operable to cause the machine to:
encrypt the module link before providing the module link.

30

14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the module link is encrypted with a public key that corresponds to a user of the software application.

15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the computer program
5 product is operable to cause the machine to:
receive the public key used for encrypting the module link.

16. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the module link enables
access to the version-specific functionality by referencing the version specific functionality.
10

17. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the module link enables
access to the version-specific functionality by downloading the version-specific functionality
and incorporating the version-specific module into the application core.

18. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the module link comprises
15 configuration settings for the application core.

19. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the computer program
product is operable to cause the machine to receive identification information that
20 corresponds to a user of the software application; and
wherein the version of the software application is determined using the identification
information.

20. The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the software application
25 comprises a content player in an electronic learning system and the version-specific
functionality corresponds to at least one of an online content player, an authoring
environment content player, and an offline content player.

21. An electronic learning system, comprising:
30 a first system to provide course content;

a second system to provide a content player that presents the course content; and
a third system to identify a version of the content player that is to present the course
content, and to provide a module link for use with the content player, the module link for
accessing functionality associated with the version of the content player that is to present the
5 course content.

22. The electronic learning system of claim 21, wherein the content player comprises
an application core that contains functionality that is common among different versions of
the content player, the application core operating with the functionality accessed by the
10 module link to present the course content.

23. The electronic learning system of claim 21, wherein the first system comprises a
master repository that stores the course content.

15 24. The electronic learning system of claim 23, wherein the content player accesses
the content from the master repository.

25. The electronic learning system of claim 21, wherein the content player is
provided to a local computer, the local computer having access to a local repository of course
20 content.

26. The electronic learning system of claim 25, wherein the content player accesses
the content from the local repository.

25 27. The method of claim 21, wherein the third system encrypts the module link
before providing the module link.

28. The method of claim 21, wherein the third system encrypts the module link with
a public key that corresponds to a user of the software application.

30